

TEENS, CRIME, AND THE COMMUNITY



YOUTH IN SERVICE

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

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The Community Works members only website is up! This password protected site offers the freshly updated Community Works sessions in downloadable PDF files. Only Community Works instructors who have submitted a Site Agreement Form can access the site. If you have not been contacted with your username and password, but have submitted a Site Agreement Form, please contact Debra Eisenman at Deisenman@ncpc. org or 202-261-4116



Diversity and bias awareness are important issues in today's society.

The front pages of many newspapers are focused on immigration issues, ethnic tensions, and more. Educating youth about diversity and bias awareness can help them better understand the current state of society, other cultures, and the negative impact of stereotyping.

Community Works Session 26, Diversity and Bias Awareness: A Look at Stereotypes, engages teens in a series of discussions and activities to help them understand and celebrate diversity, learn the importance of respecting others' differences, recognize stereotyping and realize its impact, and understand teens' role in reducing acts of prejudice and discrimination. An important step in the session gives teens an opportunity to create and share their own identity web. This activity helps your students learn about each others' differences and similarities in a safe environment.

Service-learning projects that *Community Works* students can complete to address diversity and bias awareness include:

- Creating a peer education program to teach other teens or younger children about diversity and bias awareness.
- Organizing "days of respect," in which all members of the school or community can share strategies about diversity awareness and hate crimes.
- Recruiting and including youth from diverse backgrounds in student groups.
- Peer-tutoring English as a second language students.

You can use the online enhancements for this session (from www.ncpc.org/tcc) for more tips, web resources, and service-learning project ideas. For a free, electronic copy of *Community Works* Session 26: Diversity and Bias Awareness: A Look at Stereotypes, contact tcc@ncpc.org with your name and email address.

COMMUNITY WORKS, 3RD EDITION



The *Community Works* curriculum has just been updated, to include new statistics, resources, handouts, and a test bank. To order a copy of the new edition, call 800-NCPC-911 or visit www.mcgruffstore.org and request item K31. Each copy is \$119.00; if you order 10 or more copies, each copy costs \$95.00.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service January 15, 2007. For more information, contact: www.mlkday.gov

No Name Calling Week January 22-26, 2007 A week of educational activities focused on eliminating bullying. For more information, contact: www.nonamecallingweek

National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week. February 5 – 9, 2007.

National Crime Prevention Council 8th National Conference on Preventing Crime October 3 – 5, 2007 Atlanta, GA Contact: www.ncpc.org/National Conference2007

SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE-LEARNING: TOTALLY POSITIVE PRODUCTIONS



Totally Positive Productions, a community organization in Chicago, IL, completed a youth-led service-learning project during the summer focused on the hip-hop movement as it relates to crime prevention. The youth involved in the project identified crimes and social problems in their community, researched the hip-hop movement, and found that hip-hop devoid of negativity, and rife with positive lyrics can aid in crime prevention. The youth then wrote essays about the topic and held an essay presentation contest.

The youth involved in the project said that they learned about team work, how to work with people outside of their community, and how to openly address social problems among peers and adults. The youth enjoyed the project, and would like to continue exploring the community problems they identified, and creating projects using their creative abilities.

Youth at Totally Positive Productions also created P-Rap (positive rap music) in order to express themselves, make use of their creativity and artistic talent, and bring about positive social change. They are continuing to look for opportunities to share their music with the hip-hop community.

For more information about Totally Positive Productions' service-learning project, check out www.totallypostiveproductions.com.

COMMUNITY WORKS INSTRUCTOR UPDATES

- If you haven't already completed and submitted a Site Agreement Form to the national TCC office, please download the form from www.ncpc.org/tcc and submit it as soon as possible to take advantage of the new *Community Works* sessions online, service-learning grants, and instructor stipend.
- Don't forget to complete a *Community Works* user survey at the end of your fall semester. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete at www.ncpc.org/tcc. Instructors who submit the survey online will receive a complimentary gift.
- *Community Works* instructors who have submitted a Site Agreement Form will receive information on applying for an instructor stipend in the coming weeks.
- The next service-learning grant application deadline is February 1, 2007. Remember that only registered *Community Works* sites will be considered for the grant funds. If you have any questions about the grant, check out www.ncpc.org/tcc, or contact Belén Pereira at 202-261-4152 or bpereira@ncpc.org.
- Remember to visit www.ncpc.org/tcc for information about upcoming events, *Community Works* session enhancements, monthly articles, and TCC resources.

If you have a question or concern you would like to see answered here, email tcc@ncpc.org.